From: Queally, James <James.Queally@latimes.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 1:10 PM

To:Joshua RubensteinCc:PIO;Patricia SandovalSubject:Re: Robert Cain plea deal

No problem. This is an "LAPD statement" or is at attributable to someone?

From: Joshua Rubenstein <n5373@lapd.online> Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 12:45:24 PM

To: Queally, James

Cc: PIO; Patricia Sandoval

Subject: Re: Robert Cain plea deal

Here's our statement James...

Robert Cain's sentencing today closes the chapter of a disturbing incident within our ranks. As mentioned by former LAPD Chief Charlie Beck, Cain has tarnished the badge and is being punished accordingly. While the Department will not comment on the specifics of the sentence, we do believe anytime an officer betrays the trust of the people we serve, it tears away at the fabric of our community. The Department remains committed to maintaining and further building our residents faith in our professionalism and integrity.

Thanks for being patient.

Josh

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 15, 2018, at 11:31 AM, Queally, James < <u>James.Queally@latimes.com</u>> wrote:

#### Good morning folks:

Just seeing if the department has any comment on the Robert Cain plea deal. He was sentenced to 2 years in connection with the sexual abuse of the 15-year-old cadet. He originally faced 7 years and 8 months if convicted on all counts.

If you have an official react, can you please send along? The family of the victim is less than thrilled about this, and it is a little surprising on its face, since RHD had a strong case here. The girl was willing to testify and you guys previously disclosed you had copies of text messages establishing an "inappropriate relationship" between your former officer and the victim.

Also, just checking, you guys did in fact present a case for filing against Cain related to the thefts, correct?

Thanks,

JQ

From: Joshua Rubenstein

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 12:45 PM

To: Queally, James
Cc: PIO;Patricia Sandoval
Subject: Re: Robert Cain plea deal

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Thanks, JQ From: Joshua Rubenstein

Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:43 AM

To:Queally, JamesCc:PIO;Patricia SandovalSubject:Re: Robert Cain plea deal

Sorry James. At this point we are not saying anymore than we already have on this topic.

Josh Rubenstein Public Information Director Los Angeles Police Department @PDPioJosh

On Aug 15, 2018, at 11:31 AM, Queally, James < <u>James.Queally@latimes.com</u>> wrote:

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Thanks, JQ From:Queally, James < James.Queally@latimes.com>Sent:Wednesday, August 15, 2018 11:32 AMTo:PIO;Joshua Rubenstein;Patricia Sandoval

**Subject:** Robert Cain plea deal

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Also, just checking, you guys did in fact present a case for filing against Cain related to the thefts, correct?

Thanks,

JQ

From: Patricia Sandoval

Sent:Tuesday, August 14, 2018 8:35 PMTo:Winton, Richard; Joshua RubensteinSubject:Re: Wesson wedding records request

Hi Richard,

Apologies for my tardy reply. Unfortunately, our Discovery Unit has a new system to request documents via CPRA. You will need to log onto our Department website and in the search box type CPRA. This will direct you to the instructions and ICON to make this request.

Thank you, Trish

Patricia Sandoval, Captain Commanding Officer Media Relations Division (213) 486-5910

From: Winton, Richard < richard.winton@latimes.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 2:19 PM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Cc:** Patricia Sandoval

Subject: Wesson wedding records request

Under California's Public Records Act, the Los Angeles Times requests:

Copies of any payments/checks received in connection with security or other services at the wedding of Justin Wesson

Any emails or communications sent or received from Assistant Chief Beatrice Girmala, then Chief Charlie Beck or his executive assistant, members of the security detail assigned to the event about the wedding.

Any emails, notes, memos from Herb Wesson or his staff in connection with the wedding to the department's staff.

I request this information be provided electronically via email attachment. A rolling response as responsive materials become available is acceptable.

This information is being sought on behalf of The Times for dissemination to the general public in the process of newsgathering and I request any fees be waived as this request involves a matter of public interest.

The California Public Records Act requires a response within 10 days. If access to the records I am requesting will take longer, please contact me with information about when I might expect copies.

If my request is denied in whole or part, please justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions in the Public Records Act.

Thanks for your assistance.

Richard Winton
Times Staff Writer
Crime and Investigations
Los Angeles Times
202 W. 1st St, Los Angeles 90012
richard.winton@latimes.com
@lacrimes
(213)509-5447

From: Dolan, Jack <John.Dolan@latimes.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:27 PM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Subject:** RE: For tomorrow's story

#### That's not a response.

From: Joshua Rubenstein [mailto:n5373@lapd.online]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:16 PM

To: Dolan, Jack

Subject: Re: For tomorrow's story

Jack

You are going to have to make a public records request for that information.

Here's the link for that.

http://www.lapdonline.org/i want to know/content basic view/36329

Josh

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 14, 2018, at 3:40 PM, Dolan, Jack < John. Dolan@latimes.com > wrote:

Hey Josh,

It looks like Moore is collecting about \$600,000 from city coffers: \$360,000 in salary and \$240,000 from the police and fire pension fund. Is that correct? Thanks.

----Original Message----

From: Dolan, Jack

Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 11:42 AM

To: Josh Rubenstein Subject: Last question

Hi Josh,

I asked Moore if he expected to get rich when he became a cop 36 years ago. He walked away without answering. Just making sure that's how he intended to respond. If not, I'm at

Thanks.

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Sent: Tuesday, August 14, 2018 4:16 PM

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T - :	La alacca Declaración

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From: Winton, Richard < Richard.Winton@latimes.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 13, 2018 12:42 PM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein

**Subject:** Can you confirm the couple paid the lapd back for the security at Wesson wedding?

Richard Winton Staff Writer Los Angeles Times 202 West First Street Los Angeles CA 90012

Cell

E-mail: Richard.winton@latimes.com

Twitter:@LAcrimes

From: Joshua Rubenstein

Sent: Saturday, August 11, 2018 7:56 AM

**To:** Dolan, Jack **Subject:** Re: Moore's age?

#### He's 58

> On Aug 11, 2018, at 7:47 AM, Dolan, Jack < John. Dolan@latimes.com > wrote:

>

> Hi Josh,

>

> Can you please confirm Moore's age? The last story I saw said 57, but it's always possible he had a birthday since then.

>

> The story should be on our website later this morning.

>

- > Thanks.
- > Sent from my iPhone

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Hi Josh,

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The story should be on our website later this morning.

Thanks.

From: Dolan, Jack <John.Dolan@latimes.com>
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 6:12 PM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Subject:** Deadline fact check

>>>

How old is Moore? The last age I see in our clips says 57, but it looks like he might have had a birthday sine then. Also, pension records show his drop payment was \$1.27 million. Is that correct?

```
----Original Message-----
From: Joshua Rubenstein [mailto:n5373@lapd.online]
Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 7:58 AM
To: Dolan, Jack
Subject: Re: Follow up
I don't think he has exact dates on it.
Josh Rubenstein
Public Information Director
Los Angeles Police Department
@PDPioJosh
> On Aug 10, 2018, at 7:28 AM, Dolan, Jack < John. Dolan@latimes.com > wrote:
> Thanks. When was that?
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> From: Joshua Rubenstein [mailto:n5373@lapd.online]
> Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 7:28 AM
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>>>> Our review of records turned up only 5 people who collected their DROP money and then returned since 2008, and none of them was an assistant or deputy chief.

>>>>

>>>> Thanks.

>>>>

>>>> Sent from my iPhone

From: Queally, James <James.Queally@latimes.com>

**Sent:** Friday, August 10, 2018 10:40 AM

**To:** Patricia Sandoval; Joshua Rubenstein; William Hayes

**Subject:** Re: Skid Row Stabber: Bobby Joe Maxwell

Gotcha. Thanks guys, have a nice weekend!

From: Patricia Sandoval <25981@lapd.online> Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 9:21:21 AM

**To:** Queally, James; Joshua Rubenstein; William Hayes **Subject:** Re: Skid Row Stabber: Bobby Joe Maxwell

James,

The Department understands and agrees with the District Attorney's prosecutorial decision in the Bobby Jo Maxwell case.

Thank you and enjoy your weekend, Trish

Patricia Sandoval, Captain Commanding Officer Media Relations Division (213) 486-5910

From: Queally, James <james.queally@latimes.com>

Sent: Friday, August 10, 2018 6:09 AM
To: Joshua Rubenstein; Patricia Sandoval
Subject: Skid Row Stabber: Bobby Joe Maxwell

### Morning folks:

I'm going to be writing one more story on the situation involving Bobby Joe Maxwell, the alleged Skid Row Stabber, today. The D.A's office is going to ask the judge to drop the case, citing compassionate release due to his deteriorating health (he's in a coma. Trish, you had setup an interview with Capt. Hayes in April for an earlier story on this issue).

Just wanted to see if the department was going to have any comment or statement on the conclusion of this case.

Thanks,
James Queally
Reporter
Los Angeles Times
213-265-6529

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Patricia Sandoval, Captain

**Commanding Officer** 

Media Relations Division

(213) 486-5910

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James Queally
Reporter

Los Angeles Times

213-265-6529

From: Joshua Rubenstein

**Sent:** Friday, August 10, 2018 8:17 AM

**To:** Dolan, Jack **Subject:** Re: Follow up

Unfortunately I can only give you the ballpark of '08 or '09

```
> On Aug 10, 2018, at 8:06 AM, Dolan, Jack < John. Dolan@latimes.com > wrote:
>
> Rough? Like, a year? I'm not trying to be difficult, I just don't recognize the name so I genuinely have no idea.
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> From: Joshua Rubenstein [mailto:n5373@lapd.online]
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Thanks.

From: Patricia Sandoval

**Sent:** Friday, August 10, 2018 6:59 AM **To:** Queally, James; Joshua Rubenstein

**Subject:** Re: Skid Row Stabber: Bobby Joe Maxwell

James,

Let me talk to Josh and Captain Hayes and I'll get back to you.

Thank you, Trish

Patricia Sandoval, Captain Commanding Officer Media Relations Division (213) 486-5910

From: Queally, James <james.queally@latimes.com>

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213-265-6529

From: Queally, James <James.Queally@latimes.com>

Sent:Friday, August 10, 2018 6:09 AMTo:Joshua Rubenstein; Patricia SandovalSubject:Skid Row Stabber: Bobby Joe Maxwell

# Morning folks:

I'm going to be writing one more story on the situation involving Bobby Joe Maxwell, the alleged Skid Row Stabber, today. The D.A's office is going to ask the judge to drop the case, citing compassionate release due to his deteriorating health (he's in a coma. Trish, you had setup an interview with Capt. Hayes in April for an earlier story on this issue).

Just wanted to see if the department was going to have any comment or statement on the conclusion of this case.

Thanks,
James Queally
Reporter
Los Angeles Times
213-265-6529

From: Patricia Sandoval

Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 5:04 PM

To: Winton, Richard; Joshua Rubenstein; oborraez@univision.net

**Subject:** Re: Wesson wedding

No Uyeda

Patricia Sandoval, Captain Commanding Officer Media Relations Division (213) 486-5910

From: Winton, Richard < richard.winton@latimes.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, August 9, 2018 4:59 PM **To:** Joshua Rubenstein; Patricia Sandoval

Subject: Re: Wesson wedding

Did council president or his son and or daughter in law request LAPD's presence at the wedding?

How many hours did the officers work (i.e. 4-10 etc)

Did Mayor Garcetti has his own separate security detail at the event?

Who in the LAPD arranged the security work?

And who are the prominent people beyond the Mayor and Council president?

Would Chief Moore authorize this kind of use of funds and have other weddings received such security?

Richard Winton
Times Staff Writer
Crime and Investigations
Los Angeles Times
202 W. 1st St, Los Angeles 90012
richard.winton@latimes.com
@lacrimes
(213)509-5447

**From:** Joshua Rubenstein <n5373@lapd.online> **Sent:** Thursday, August 9, 2018 4:49:05 PM **To:** Winton, Richard; Patricia Sandoval

Subject: Re: Wesson wedding

Richard-

Sorry for the delay...as I mentioned on the phone, here are the answers I can give you at this point...

- 1. Four police officers and 1 Sgt.
- 2. Security Detail for event

- 3. \$2,768
- 4. The LAPD was not reimbursed.

This statement addresses the other questions.

Upon learning of the event involving Justin Wesson and Alexis Marin, the Los Angeles Police Department decided to provide a small contingent of on-duty personnel to ensure the safety and security of a number of prominent elected officials, who were attending as guests.

That decision rests with the discretion of the Chief of Police and was his alone.

Hope that helps.

JOSH RUBENSTEIN
PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR II
COMMANDING OFFICER
PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

(213) 486-5900 (213) 486-5910



From: Winton, Richard < Richard. Winton@latimes.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 8, 2018 11:19:19 AM

To: Joshua Rubenstein; Patricia Sandoval

**Subject:** Wesson wedding

We have some questions. I understand the answers to some maybe readily available as someone else asked.

- 1) How many LAPD officers staffed the 2017 wedding of Justin Wesson and Alexis Marin?
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- 5) Did Council President Herb Wesson request an LAPD presence at her wedding?
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E-mail: Richard.winton@latimes.com

Twitter: @LAcrimes

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Richard Winton Staff Writer Los Angeles Times 202 West First Street Los Angeles CA 90012 Cell

E-mail: Richard.winton@latimes.com

Twitter:@LAcrimes

From: Joshua Rubenstein

Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 4:43 PM

**To:** Winton, Richard **Subject:** Re: Wesson wedding

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Richard Winton Staff Writer Los Angeles Times 202 West First Street Los Angeles CA 90012

Cell

E-mail: Richard.winton@latimes.com

Twitter: @LAcrimes

From: Joshua Cain <jcain@scng.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 09, 2018 3:57 PM

To: Joshua Rubenstein

Subject: Lillian Carranza statement

Hi Josh, do you have a second to talk this afternoon? I just spoke to Capt. Lillian Carranza's attorney, who made some claims about the reasons for her being transferred from Van Nuys Division to Commercial Crimes Bureau.

As I think you know, she's threatened to sue the city over discrimination claims filed late last year.

He told me they see her being moved as a way for the department to reduce her responsibility. He also said she will no longer have access to the COMPSTAT system.

I'd appreciate hearing what LAPD or the city has to say about these claims.

Thanks,

--

Josh Cain Crime and Public Safety Reporter Southern California News Group

o: (818) 713-0043

c:

@joshpcain

**From:** Eric Licas <elicas@scng.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2018 4:57 PM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein

**Subject:** OC Register story: Border arrest - Alex Grimaldi-Lomeli

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Mr. Rubenstein,

I'm working on a story for the OC Register regarding a 20 year-old male, Alexander Grimaldi-Lomeli, who is currently in LAPD custody after he was arrested at the US-Mexico Border on the morning of Saturday, August 4.

I understand he was wanted for murder and human trafficking, and would like to learn more details about his warrants.

I'd greatly appreciate a moment of your time or whatever background you might be able to provide. I hope to get a draft to my editors soon so that we can have a story out before we get too far away from the arrest date.

If you're able to find a moment, please don't hesitate to get back to me at any time.

Kind regards, Eric Licas

(cell)

From: Winton, Richard <Richard.Winton@latimes.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 08, 2018 11:19 AM **To:** Joshua Rubenstein;Patricia Sandoval

**Subject:** Wesson wedding

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

We have some questions. I understand the answers to some maybe readily available as someone else asked.

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Richard Winton
Staff Writer
Los Angeles Times
202 West First Street
Los Angeles CA 90012
Cell

E-mail: Richard.winton@latimes.com

Twitter:@LAcrimes

From: Dolan, Jack < John.Dolan@latimes.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 08, 2018 9:27 AM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Subject:** Michel Moore and DROP

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

# Hi Josh,

Trying to understand how Michel Moore was able to complete the DROP program, receive his lump sum payment, and then return to the department a few weeks later. We understand there is a "recall" provision in the city charter, is that how he was able to return from retirement? On deadline for 2 pm, thanks.

Jack Dolan Staff Writer

The Los Angeles Times Office: 213-237-5112

Cell:

jack.dolan@latimes.com

@jackdolanLAT

From: Patricia Sandoval

Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2018 7:24 PM

To: Winton, Richard Cc: Joshua Rubenstein

**Subject:** Re: Interview and conversation w Chief Moore re amnesty for homeless citations

Richard,

I'll see what we can do to schedule something ASAP.

Thank you, Trish

Patricia Sandoval, Captain Commanding Officer Media Relations Division (213) 486-5910

From: Winton, Richard < richard.winton@latimes.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 7, 2018 5:05 PM

To: Patricia Sandoval

Subject: Interview and conversation w Chief Moore re amnesty for homeless citations

# Trish,

I want to talk to the chief about the amnesty homeless issue and whether he thinks it is time to do an amnesty on old failures to appear to clear the books? Seems like a lot of people agree there are just too many -100,000s of old warrants that are gumming up the system and making for a lot of arrests

# Richard

Richard Winton Staff Writer Los Angeles Times 202 West First Street Los Angeles CA 90012

Cell

E-mail: Richard.winton@latimes.com

Twitter: @LAcrimes

From: Winton, Richard <Richard.Winton@latimes.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 07, 2018 5:06 PM

**To:** Patricia Sandoval

**Subject:** Interview and conversation w Chief Moore re amnesty for homeless citations

## Trish,

I want to talk to the chief about the amnesty homeless issue and whether he thinks it is time to do an amnesty on old failures to appear to clear the books? Seems like a lot of people agree there are just too many -100,000s of old warrants that are gumming up the system and making for a lot of arrests

### Richard

Richard Winton
Staff Writer
Los Angeles Times
202 West First Street
Los Angeles CA 90012

Cell

E-mail: Richard.winton@latimes.com

Twitter:@LAcrimes

From: James Roberts

**Sent:** Monday, August 06, 2018 4:30 PM

**To:** Newberry, Laura

Cc: Patricia Sandoval; Joshua Rubenstein; Michael Soliman; Robert Binder

**Subject:** RE: LA Times: Bird scooter questions

Hi Laura....

I was JUST about to send an e-mail out to some of my local Venice constituents mentioning an enforcement/education effort Pacific Division made this past Saturday (August 4) on the Venice bikepath and Boardwalk ....around 210 scooters abandoned at our two checkpoints when riders were warned for various violations..

- What: High Visibility Electric Scooter Education Enforcement
- When: This past Saturday, Aug 4<sup>th</sup> 1000-1400 (4 hours)
- Where: Two locations (one on OFW/Windward; one on the Bikepath at Windward)
- Simultaneously enforcement at both locations where officers erected "Pop-ups" and stopped <u>every</u> electric scooter (or other unlawful conveyance) and warned them for riding on the bikepath/boardwalk....helmet requirement....etc.
- Approximately 210 scooters were voluntarily abandoned at the checkpoint (as they were not permitted to use them without receiving a citation)
- We communicated with the scooter companies who were cooperative and eager to assist with education. They responded to take possession of the abandoned scooters.

I can tell you that I have seen instances of a rows of scooters having been pushed over, others put in trash cans...and others carefully stacked into a pile on sidewalks or in alleys....Clearly by someone trying to make a point.

The City Council is working to address this new, and very popular, transportation option. In the meantime, we've begun educating folks that they're not legal on the bike paths, the Venice Boardwalk, or the sidewalks...and you need a wear a helmet and have a driver's license.

I'm copying our media relations folks for awareness.

-Jay

James Roberts, Captain Commanding Officer Pacific Patrol Division Los Angeles Police Department

From: Newberry, Laura < laura.newberry@latimes.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 06, 2018 4:18 PM **To:** James Roberts <31381@lapd.online> **Subject:** RE: LA Times: Bird scooter questions

Hi Captain Roberts,

I hope you're well. I'm fine-tuning this story on electric scooter vandalism, and I'm trying to get a sense of how often the Pacific Division is hearing about or coming across these defaced scooters, and whether it's seen as a problem. I would ideally like to talk with an officer on beach detail who is more likely to have come across these things.

I'm on deadline for tomorrow. Any help is appreciated!

Take care,

Laura

From: James Roberts [mailto:31381@lapd.online]

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:53 AM

**To:** Newberry, Laura **Cc:** James Setzer

**Subject:** Re: LA Times: Bird scooter questions

Hi Laura...

Im on vacation right now but have copied to my partner, the Area Captain Jim Setzer.

-Jay

James Roberts, Captain
Commanding Officer
Pacific Patrol Division
Los Angeles Police Department

From: Newberry, Laura < laura.newberry@latimes.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 24, 2018 9:26:50 AM

To: James Roberts

Subject: LA Times: Bird scooter questions

Hi Captain Roberts,

I hope this message finds you well. I'm a reporter at the LA Times, and I've been hearing more and more reports about Bird scooters being vandalized, especially in Venice. I'd like to know if you all have been getting reports of this, and if so, whether scooter vandalism is becoming more prevalent (and what the department is doing about it, if anything).

Also, I'd like to know how many traffic incidents have involved Bird/Lime scooters since January, as well as how many scooter riders have been issued traffic citations.

Thank you for your help.

Best,

**Laura Newberry** 

Reporter, Los Angeles Times 863-660-0410

From: Joshua Cain <jcain@scng.com>
Sent: Monday, August 06, 2018 3:30 PM

To: Joshua Rubenstein

**Subject:** Question about Alen Alpanian

Hi Josh, do you know if Alen Alpanian is still in the hospital?

He's the man who was shot by officers in Porter Ranch in June. I'm writing about the critical incident video released of that incident over the weekend.

Thanks,

--

Josh Cain Crime and Public Safety Reporter Southern California News Group

o: (818) 713-0043

c:

@joshpcain

From: Joshua Rubenstein

**Sent:** Monday, August 06, 2018 10:48 AM

**To:** Elizabeth Chou **Subject:** Re: Sun Valley fire

I will try and get some kind and f update on this by the end of the day for you.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 6, 2018, at 9:43 AM, Elizabeth Chou <echou@scng.com> wrote:

Hey Josh,

Checking to see if anything new since your last update on this.

Thanks.

Liz

On Sat, Aug 4, 2018 at 4:48 PM Elizabeth Chou <<u>echou@scng.com</u>> wrote: Okay got it, have a good weekend!

On Sat, Aug 4, 2018 at 4:47 PM Joshua Rubenstein <<u>n5373@lapd.online</u>> wrote: Hey there Liz I actually won't be able to get an answer for you until Monday morning.

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 4, 2018, at 4:46 PM, Elizabeth Chou <echou@scng.com> wrote:

I know it's weekend, but anything change since your last thing about the major crimes division investigating all leads?

On Mon, Jul 30, 2018 at 3:59 PM Elizabeth Chou < <a href="mailto:echou@scng.com">echou@scng.com</a> wrote: Is there a different aspect to this that I can get information on, perhaps, separate from the investigation of the fire itself?

Namely whether HOPE Team officers were there or have been to that site since or soon after the fire? I'd like to maybe accompany the team or the officers to see what happens in the aftermath of a fire like this.

And for that matter, have LAPD officers been called to that encampment very much in the recent months or years in the time that it's existed? And why have they needed to go to that site? What types of crimes if any have been reported?

Liz

Elizabeth Chou City Hall beat reporter LA Daily News

Office: (818) 713-3761
Cell: Email: ecnou@scng.com
Twitter: @reporterliz

On Mon, Jul 30, 2018 at 3:55 PM, Joshua Rubenstein <<u>n5373@lapd.online</u>> wrote:

Liz-

All I can tell you is...Major Crimes Division is the lead investigative entity and they are following up on all investigative leads. Sorry, that's it for now you can check back later this week.

Josh

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 30, 2018, at 3:43 PM, Elizabeth Chou < echou@scng.com > wrote:

Hi Josh,

Is there any kind of LAPD response or investigation in relation to the fire in Sun Valley last week at San Fernando and Sheldon roads last week? Is LAPD accompanying any HOPE teams there this week if it is still being used as an encampment (not sure how much is left of it), or were they there last week?

Thanks.

Liz

Elizabeth Chou
City Hall beat reporter
LA Daily News
Office: (818) 713, 3761

Office: (818) 713-3761 Cell:

Email: <u>echou@scng.com</u>
Twitter: @reporterliz

From: Elizabeth Chou <echou@scng.com>
Sent: Monday, August 06, 2018 9:44 AM

To: Joshua Rubenstein Subject: Re: Sun Valley fire

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Email: <a href="mailto:echou@scng.com">echou@scng.com</a>
Twitter: @reporterliz

From: Elizabeth Chou <echou@scng.com>
Sent: Saturday, August 04, 2018 4:49 PM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Subject:** Re: Sun Valley fire

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up

Flag Status: Flagged

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there this week if it is still being used as an encampment (not sure how much is left of it), or were they there last week?

Thanks.

Liz

Elizabeth Chou
City Hall beat reporter
LA Daily News
Office: (818) 713-3761
Cell:

Email: echou@scng.com
Twitter: @reporterliz

From: Smith, Dakota < Dakota.Smith@latimes.com>

Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2018 7:02 PM

To:Joshua RubensteinCc:Alpert, EmilySubject:3-D-printed guns

Hi Josh,

We're working on a story involving 3-D-printed guns. Can you answer these questions?

Does the city of L.A. have any jurisdiction when it comes to 3-D-printed guns? If so, what is the LAPD's role? Are there any L.A. laws on the books pertaining to 3-D-printed guns?

Have there been any instances in recent years which the LAPD has confiscated 3-D-printed guns? Or arrested someone for making a 3-D-printed gun? If so, can you describe what happened?

Alternatively, can you give any information about how often it is that the LAPD discovers homemade guns or weapons? How common is that?

Thanks! Our deadline is Friday afternoon. Please reply to both of us.

Dakota

L.A. Times reporter
Cell:

From: Joshua Rubenstein

Sent: Thursday, August 02, 2018 12:35 PM

To: Megan Barnes
Subject: Re: LAPD claim

No...sorry.

JOSH RUBENSTEIN

PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR II

COMMANDING OFFICER

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

(213) 486-5900 (213) 486-5910



From: Megan Barnes <mbarnes@scng.com> Sent: Thursday, August 2, 2018 11:40:20 AM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Subject:** Re: LAPD claim

And that is not something I could get back today, correct?

Megan Barnes Reporter | Press-Telegram

W: 310.543.6614 C:

On Thu, Aug 2, 2018 at 11:37 AM, Joshua Rubenstein <<u>n5373@lapd.online</u>> wrote: Unfortunately...that is a bigger project as it is a very rare occurrence so you will have to make a discovery request.

JOSH RUBENSTEIN

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From: Megan Barnes < mbarnes@scng.com > Sent: Thursday, August 2, 2018 11:36:36 AM

**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Subject:** Re: LAPD claim

Thank you. How about historically?

Megan Barnes Reporter | Press-Telegram

W: 310.543.6614 C:

On Thu, Aug 2, 2018 at 11:25 AM, Joshua Rubenstein <<u>n5373@lapd.online</u>> wrote: Megan-

Year to date...there have been three.

One incident in the Harbor where an innocent bystander was hit in the leg and the other two that you already know about (Trader Joe's and Van Nuys).

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My deadline is 5 p.m. today. Please let me know if you have any questions.

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Subject: Re: LAPD claim

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# JOSH RUBENSTEIN PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR II COMMANDING OFFICER PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

(213) 486-5900 (213) 486-5910



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Reporter | Press-Telegram

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Megan Barnes Reporter | Daily Breeze

W: 310.543.6614 C:

From: Joshua Rubenstein

**Sent:** Thursday, August 02, 2018 11:26 AM

**To:** Megan Barnes **Subject:** Re: LAPD claim

Megan-

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JOSH RUBENSTEIN

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**To:** Joshua Rubenstein **Subject:** Re: LAPD claim

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Megan Barnes Reporter | Daily Breeze

W: 310.543.6614 C:

From: Joshua Rubenstein

Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 2:40 PM

To: Joshua Cain

**Subject:** Re: Officers involved in Van Nuys OIS

Attachments: NRF040-18 OIS-Van Nuys Div (3) Updated with Names.pdf

I don't have their time on the job...but here is the press release with their names. It was released yesterday.

JOSH RUBENSTEIN

PUBLIC INFORMATION DIRECTOR II

COMMANDING OFFICER

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS GROUP

(213) 486-5900 (213) 486-5910



From: Joshua Cain <jcain@scng.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 1, 2018 2:24 PM

To: Joshua Rubenstein

Subject: Officers involved in Van Nuys OIS

Hi Josh, is LAPD releasing the names of the three officers who fired their weapons in the Van Nuys officer-involved shooting we've been discussing this week?

Will you also be releasing how long each officer has worked for LAPD and whether any have been involved in an OIS before?

Thanks,

--

Josh Cain

Crime and Public Safety Reporter Southern California News Group

O: (818) 713-0043

c:

@joshpcain

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o: (818) 713-0043

c: (

@joshpcain

From: Agrawal, Nina < Nina.Agrawal@latimes.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 12:47 PM

To: Joshua Rubenstein
Cc: Patricia Sandoval

**Subject:** RE: request for comment re: courthouse recordings

Hi Josh,

Thanks for getting back to me on this Monday night. I just left a message with Capt. Sandoval and hope you can get back to me on the following: Whose decision was it to place the recording devices in the inmate interview room on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor? Was the prosecutor (Deputy DA Kleffman) aware that room had been chosen and/or offer any input on using it to record the inmates, or was he only informed of the location after the recording was complete?

Thanks,

Nina Cell: 3

From: Joshua Rubenstein [mailto:n5373@lapd.online]

**Sent:** Monday, July 30, 2018 6:26 PM

**To:** Agrawal, Nina **Cc:** Patricia Sandoval

**Subject:** Re: request for comment re: courthouse recordings

Nina

Here's the statement

"As a result of a kidnap investigation LAPD Detectives placed recoding devices in a holding cell of the court with the intention of recording a specific inmate to inmate conversation. The action was legal and was supported by the District Attorneys Office."

Josh Rubenstein
Public Information Director
Los Angeles Police Department
@PDPioJosh

On Jul 30, 2018, at 4:48 PM, Agrawal, Nina < Nina. Agrawal@latimes.com > wrote:

Hello,

I apologize for the late notice, but I would like to ask if the department has any comment on the actions it took to record communications in the 14<sup>th</sup> floor interview room at the Clara Shortridge Foltz courthouse now that the DA has filed its declaration stating that a member of the LAPD placed two hidden recording devices in the room?

Thank you,

Nina Agrawal

Los Angeles Times <image001.png>

**Nina Agrawal** Staff Writer | Los Angeles Times 202 W. 1st Street | Los Angeles, CA 90012 w: 213-237-4634 | t: @AgrawalNina

From: Megan Barnes <mbarnes@scng.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 01, 2018 10:59 AM
To: Alan Hamilton;Joshua Rubenstein

**Subject:** LAPD claim

Attachments: Attachment J. Romero.pdf; ClaimIntake\_2018\_730\_35151.pdf; Final Attachment.pdf

Hello,

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1	Victor Otten (SBN 165800)					
2	vic@ottenlawpc.com Kavita Tekchandani (SBN 234873) kavita@ottenlawpc.com					
3	I OTTEN LAW PC					
4	3620 Pacific Coast Hwy, Suite 100 Torrance, California 90505 Tel: (310)378-8533 Fax: (310)347-4225					
5	Fax: (310)347-4225					
6	Attorneys for Claimant Israel Hernandez					
7						
8	CITY OF LOS ANGELES					
9	Israel Hernandez,	CLAIM FOR MONEY DAMAGES				
10	Claimant.	[Gov. Code§ 900, et. seq.]				
11	V.	[Gov. Codes 700, et. seq.]				
12	City of Los Angeles, Chief Charlie Beck, Officer Andres Martinez, Serial No. 41620, Officer James Welch, Serial No. 41822 and Does 1-					
13	Serial No. 41620, Officer James Welch, Serial No. 41822 and Does 1-					
14	20, Inclusive.					
15	Respondents.					
16						
17						
18						
19	I. Introduction					
20	On February 2, 2018, the Claimant, Israel Hernandez, was relaxing in his living					
21	room located on the second story of the apartment building at 215 1/2 W. Opp Street,					
22	Wilmington, CA 90744. He was with his girlfriend, Jully Romero, and her two					
23	children. Around 3:30 p.m., officers assigned to the Los Angeles Police Department					
24	Harbor Division Gang Enforcement Detail ("LAPD") observed a male Hispanic in a					
25	white minivan allegedly driving recklessly and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. <sup>1</sup>					
26	The LAPD alleges that the driver of the minivan, later identified as 34-year-old Pedro					
27	Gudino, failed to stop and a vehicle pursuit ensued until the suspect collided with a					

ATTACHMENT TO CLAIM OF ISREAL HERNANDEZ  $\ensuremath{\mathbf{1}}$ 

Claimant is unaware if the minivan was registered to the suspect or the steps that the officers took to effectuate a traffic stop.

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vehicle in the intersection of W. Opp Street and Fries Avenue in the City of Wilmington. The LAPD alleges that Mr. Gudino stepped out of the vehicle and fired shots from a handgun at the officers. Mr. Hernandez is informed and believes that the police officers, Andres Martinez, Serial No. 41620, and James Welch, Serial No. 41822, had stopped at the South/West side of the intersection, excited their car, and fired at least 15 rounds from their handguns at the suspect and, shockingly, only struck Gudino in the leg.<sup>2</sup>

Despite the presence of children and pedestrians in the vicinity, and in disregard to the proper use of a firearm, Mr. Hernandez is informed and believes that the officers discharged all the ammunition in the magazines of their guns in a negligent and reckless manner. One independent witness has stated that the officers appeared poorly trained and were indiscriminately firing in the general area of the suspect rather than following police training protocol.<sup>3</sup> When the smoke had settled, Mr. Hernandez, who was in the living room of his second story apartment, was hit by a stray bullet from one of the LAPD officer's weapons. The bullet traveled through a wall, through his leg and penetrated the wall near the children.<sup>4</sup> At least four other bullets discharged from the officers' weapons hit the apartment building and a car parked on the street.<sup>5</sup>

Mr. Hernandez was eventually transported to Habor-UCLA Medical Center where he was treated for injuries to his leg. According to hospital records, Mr. Hernandez arrived at 4:31 pm. His girlfriend Ms. Romero arrived approximately five minutes later.

When Ms. Romero arrived, an employee of hospital took her into a room and asked her some basic questions. The employee stated that someone from LAPD

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Attached as Exhibit 1 is a photograph depicting the location of the shooting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Police officers are generally taught to direct the first two rounds at the upper torso of the target and a third round to the head of the target and to stop and assess the situation prior to continuing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Attached as Exhibit 2 is a photograph of the wall in Mr. Hernandez's apartment where the bullet that struck him came to rest.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See, photographs attached Exhibit 3.

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wanted to speak with her. Shortly thereafter an LAPD Sergeant entered the room and spoke with her for about five minutes. This same LAPD Sergeant entered Mr. Hernandez's hospital room and asked him if he knew who shot him. Mr. Hernandez said "yes." The Sergeant then stated, "it was the guy we arrested right?" suggesting the answer that the LAPD wanted to hear. It was clear that this Sargent was looking out for his fellow police officers because there is no way the bullets fired from the suspects gun could have caused the injury to claimant and everyone knew it.<sup>6</sup> Mr. Hernandez responded that it was an LAPD officer that shot him, and the Sergeant got visibly angry and stomped out of the room.

## The Illegal Detention of Mr. Hernandez

The entire time that Mr. Hernandez was at the hospital, there was an LAPD officer in his hospital room and an LAPD officer stationed outside his door. Despite Mr. Hernandez having been shot, the officers took turns trying to engage the claimant in conversation to elicit information from him. Both Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero were told by the LAPD officers and detectives that they were not free to leave.

Mr. Hernandez was discharge by his doctor at 9:02 pm but was told by LAPD Detective Chavez and others that he could not leave until he made a statement. Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero were detained, against their wishes, for approximately two hours after claimant was discharged. Mr. Hernandez had been shot only six hours earlier and wanted to return to his home and rest, but the LAPD would not allow him or his girlfriend to leave.

Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero stated on several occasions unequivocally that they wanted to leave. In a vulgar misuse of power, LAPD Detective Chavez demanded that they turn over their cell phones, but they refused. Detective Chavez had no legal authority to detain Mr. Hernandez or Ms. Romero or demand their cell phones. In one conversation, Detective Chavez told Mr. Hernandez that if he cooperated, the LAPD would help him with his immigration status. Mr. Hernandez

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> On the news the LAPD started spinning the story to suggest that some clandestine third party decided to fire upon the police.

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informed the detective that he was a lawful US resident. Mr. Hernandez believes that the detective wanted him to say that the LAPD was not responsible for shooting him.

The City of Los Angeles Police Department and its officers and detectives negligently and/or intentionally caused the injuries and damages to Claimant, while acting under color of law. Respondents, City of Los Angeles, Chief Charlie Beck, officer Andres Martinez, Serial No. 41620, officer James Welch, Serial No. 41822 and DOES 1-20, caused the injuries and damages complained herein below.

The inappropriate shooting of Mr. Hernandez, a civilian bystander, was a result of the negligent, reckless, intentional, unlawful and unjustifiable use of force by LAPD officers, agents or employees. The LAPD acted with excessive, unlawful, and unjustifiable force at the scene, which caused severe emotional and psychological injuries to Mr. Hernandez's body and shock to his nervous system. Mr. Hernandez also suffered property damage, incurred and continues to incur, medical bills for treatment of his injuries because of the actions of the respondents and DOES 1-20. In addition, Mr. Hernandez was subject to false imprisonment, harassment and racial discrimination and/or profiling when he was wrongly detained by LAPD officers, detectives and employees following the incident, which further contributed to his injuries.

## LAPD's Refusal to Provide a Copy of Video

It is the policy of the LAPD that video evidence in the Department's possession of critical incidents involving LAPD officers be released to the public within 45 days of the incident. The Commission or the Chief of Police may determine that earlier release is in the public interest. This release shall consist of relevant video imagery that depicts the actions and events leading up to and including the critical incident.<sup>7</sup> Shortly after the February 2, 2018 events described in this claim, the LAPD obtained a video of the police shooting from the owner of a store located near the intersection of W. Opp Street and Fries Avenue in the City of Wilmington. Despite having this

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See, http://www.lapdonline.org/home/news\_view/63555.

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video, the LAPD website for 2018 Officer Involved Shooting (O.I.S.) and Critical Incidents, fails to inform the public that the LAPD has a video of the incident.<sup>8</sup>

On or about early July 2018, a detective for the Force Investigation Division (FID) which is responsible for the investigation of all incidents involving the use of deadly force of an LAPD officer contacted Mr. Hernandez's attorney, Vic Otten, regarding the incident. The detective confirmed to Mr. Otten that the LAPD had the video but stated that he could not release it. The detective told Mr. Otten that he could obtain it through civil discovery if a lawsuit was filed. This appears to violate the LAPD's own policy and the California Public Records Act.

Mr. Hernandez's attorney also informed the detective about the illegal detention and treatment of Mr. Hernandez at the hospital. The detective was not interested in what happened but stated that Mr. Hernandez could file a claim of police misconduct. To date, neither Mr. Hernandez or his attorney have been provided a copy of the video.

### **II. Statement of Facts**

On February 2, 2018 the LAPD negligently and/or recklessly discharged their weapons in a residential neighborhood aimlessly causing Mr. Hernandez to be struck in the leg with a bullet while inside his apartment and in the presence of his children. In addition, Mr. Hernandez was subject to false imprisonment, harassment and racial discrimination when he was wrongly detained by LAPD detectives or employees following the incident, which further contributed to his injuries.

The negligent hiring, employment, negligent training, negligent supervision and negligent detention by the City of Los Angeles, and the unconstitutional policies, practices and procedures in place at the City of Los Angeles Police Department regarding the use of firearms and the unlawful detention of people, especially members of a protected class, caused the claimant to be injured as described herein. The City of Los Angeles, Chief Beck, its supervisors, officers, and staff ratifies,

<sup>8</sup> See, http://www.lapdonline.org/use of force#

condones, and acquiesces in the negligent and/or excessive use of force by its officers. The City of Los Angeles Chief Beck, its supervisors, officers, and staff ratify, condones, and acquiesces, in the filing of false police reports to "cover up" the negligent and/or excessive use of force.

As a direct result of the negligent shooting, the illegal detention and harassment at the hospital, Mr. Hernandez has suffered physical harm and extreme emotional distress. Further, as a direct result of the negligent and/or intentional conduct of Los Angeles Police Department Officers, the present Mr. Hernandez suffered unnecessary and burdensome injury to his leg and nervous system. Due to Mr. Hernandez' severe injuries, he has been unable to work since the date of the shooting. His medical doctors have not yet cleared Mr. Hernandez for return to his employment. His extensive disability and nerve damage from the shooting has rendered Mr. Hernandez partially disabled with neurological injuries, and he will require future medical treatment and rehabilitation. In addition, he suffers from psychological trauma related injuries, including sleeplessness and post-traumatic stress disorder.

The pursuit of Mr. Gudino by the LAPD in the mid- afternoon on February 2, 2018 in the presence of numerous civilians, including school age children who were returning from school, as well as the discharge of over 15 bullets into the crowded area, was both negligent and reckless. The shooting of a gun aimlessly towards Mr. Hernandez, the damaging of his property and home, the detention of him by the LAPD following his injury, where he was not permitted to leave the hospital by LAPD police officers and detectives following the completion of his treatment of his bullet wound, as well as the other acts and omissions enumerated above, were done a result of, or pursuant to, the unconstitutional policies, practices, customs, and procedures in place at the City of Los Angeles Police Department. The false imprisonment, wrongful detention and deplorable treatment of Mr. Hernandez while he was being treated for a gunshot wound caused by the LAPD officers, is believed

to be either racially motivated or attempt to cover up the illegal practices of the LAPD. These acts and others were sanctioned, authorized and ratified by the City of Los Angeles, Chief Charlie Beck, the Los Angeles Police Department and those Captains, Lieutenants, supervisors, persons, officials and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department who have policy making authority. The foregoing acts were also a result of the LAPD and other government officials, and agencies' negligent and improper hiring, and training of the officers involved in the incident at issue who were not properly qualified for the job.

Further, the negligent shooting was a result of failure of the City of Los Angeles, Chief Charlie Beck, and the Los Angeles Police Department to adequately and sufficiently hire, train and supervise LAPD officers and other employees as to proper police practices and tactics, use of deadly force, and for their negligent employment and retention of this officer and Does 1-20.

All the above-described negligent, and/or intentional acts and omissions by the City of Los Angeles, Chief Beck, the employees of the LAPD were done with malice and with deliberate indifference to the rights, health, safety and welfare of Mr. Hernandez and therefore warrants the imposition of punitive or exemplary damages against said persons, except the City of Los Angeles.

## III. Damages

Mr. Hernandez has been treated, and continues to be treated, by various medical providers including the following:

- 1. Habor-UCLA Medical Center.
- 2. Harbor Comprehensive Health.
- 3. Dr. Anne Kwiatkouski.
- 4. Dr. Edurado Anorga.

Mr. Hernandez has not been released to return to work and has been referred to treatment by a neuropsychiatrist for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other injuries. In addition to the physical issues created by the gunshot wound, Mr.

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Hernandez cannot sleep, is fearful of the police, has panic attacks, suffers from extreme anxiety and other forms of emotional distress. The amount of damages is currently unknown but exceeds \$25,000 and therefore falls under the unlimited jurisdiction of the California Superior Court.

## IV. The Claims Against the City of Los Angeles

Assault and Battery, Negligence (and damages for negligent infliction of emotional distress), False Imprisonment, Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress, Negligent Hiring, Failure to Train and Supervise; Violation of California's Public Records Act; Violation of Constitutional Right to Be Free from Unreasonable and Excessive Force (42 U.S.C. § 1983; 4th and 14th Amendment); Violation of Due Process (14th Amendment); Municipal Liability (42 U.S.C. § 1983).

# V. The Names of Presently Known Employees, Agents or Representatives, Whose Acts or Omissions Caused Claimants Injuries.

Chief Charlie Beck, Officer Andres Martinez, Serial No. 41620, Officer James Welch, Serial No. 41822, Detective Chavez and various unknown Los Angeles Police Department Officers, Sergeants, Lieutenants, Captains, Commanders, and civilian employees of the City of Los Angeles Police Department.

## VI. The Total Amount Claimed For Physical Injuries, Future Medical Care, Lost Wages And Earning Capacity, And Past, Present, And Future Physical And Psychological, Pain And Suffering.

The amount claimed exceeds the limit provided in the Government Code and falls under the unlimited jurisdiction of the Superior Court of California and/or the Federal Court.

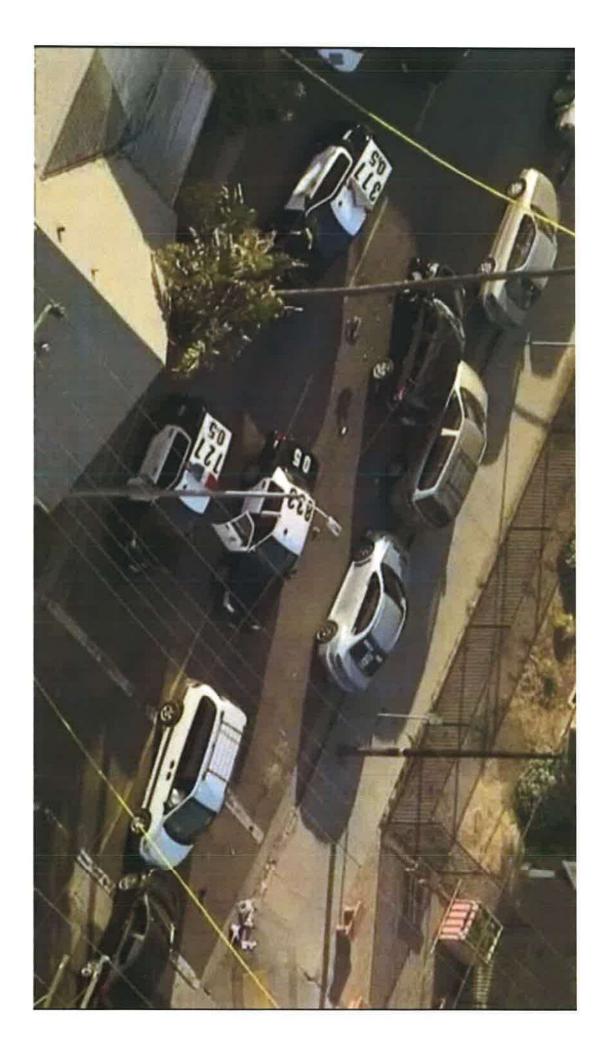
DATED: July 29, 2018

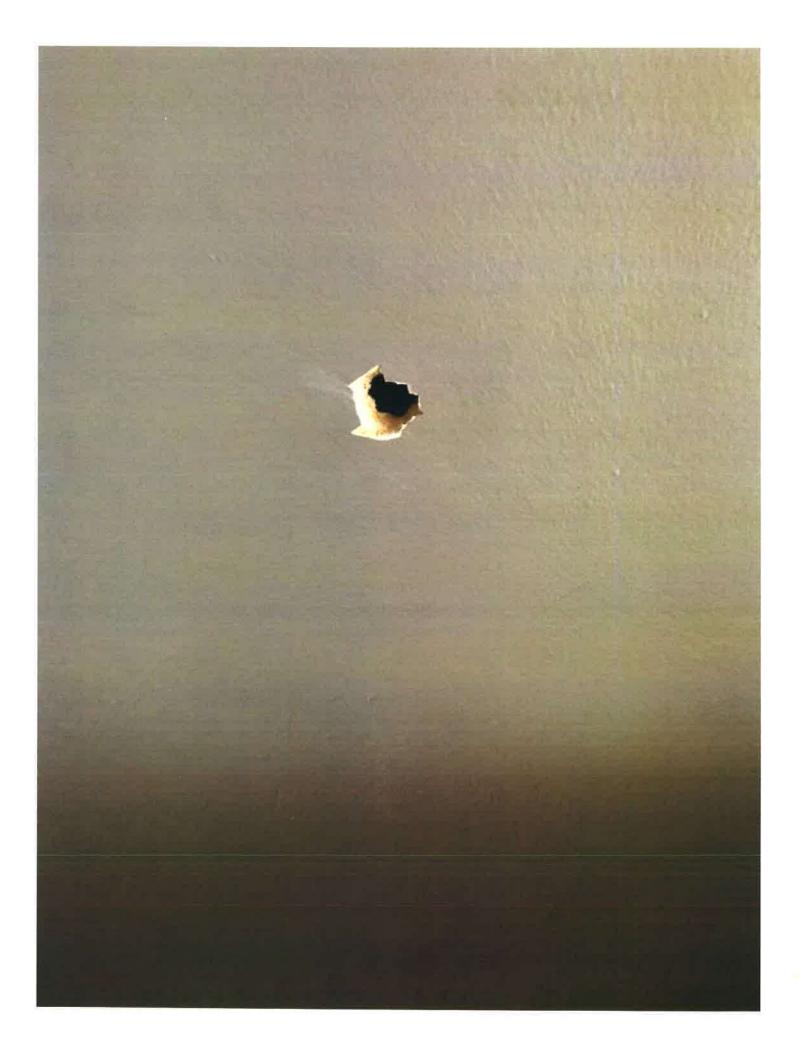
OTTEN LAW, PC

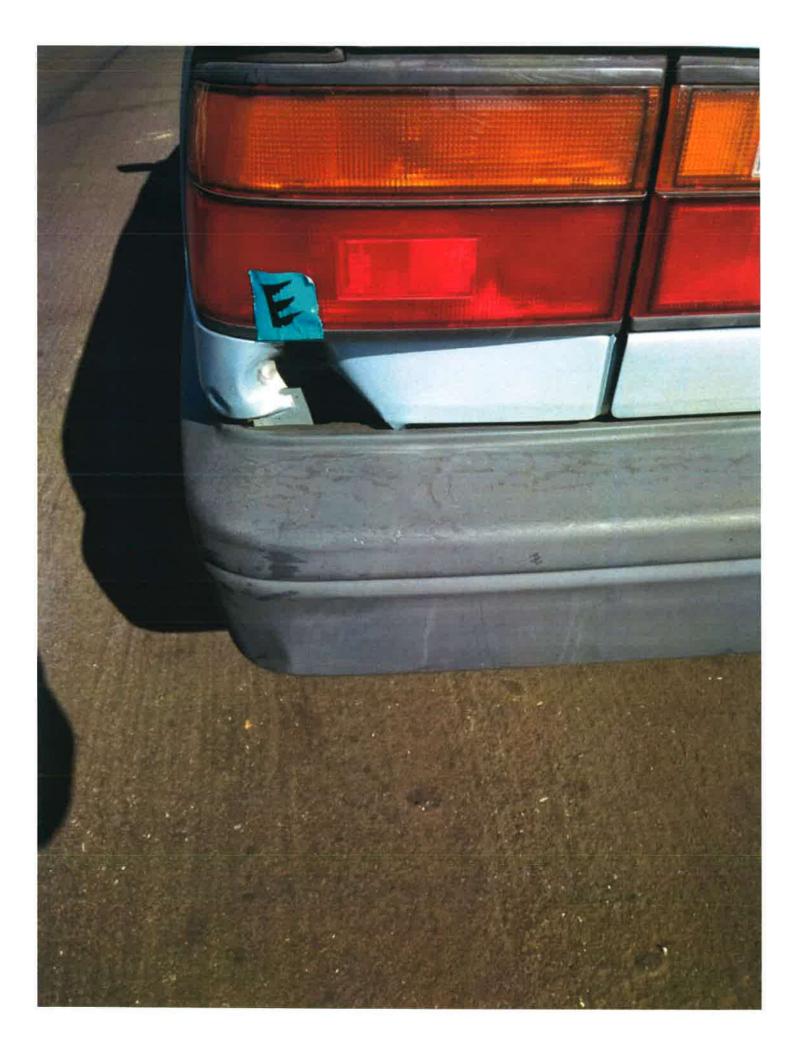
Victor Otten, Esq.

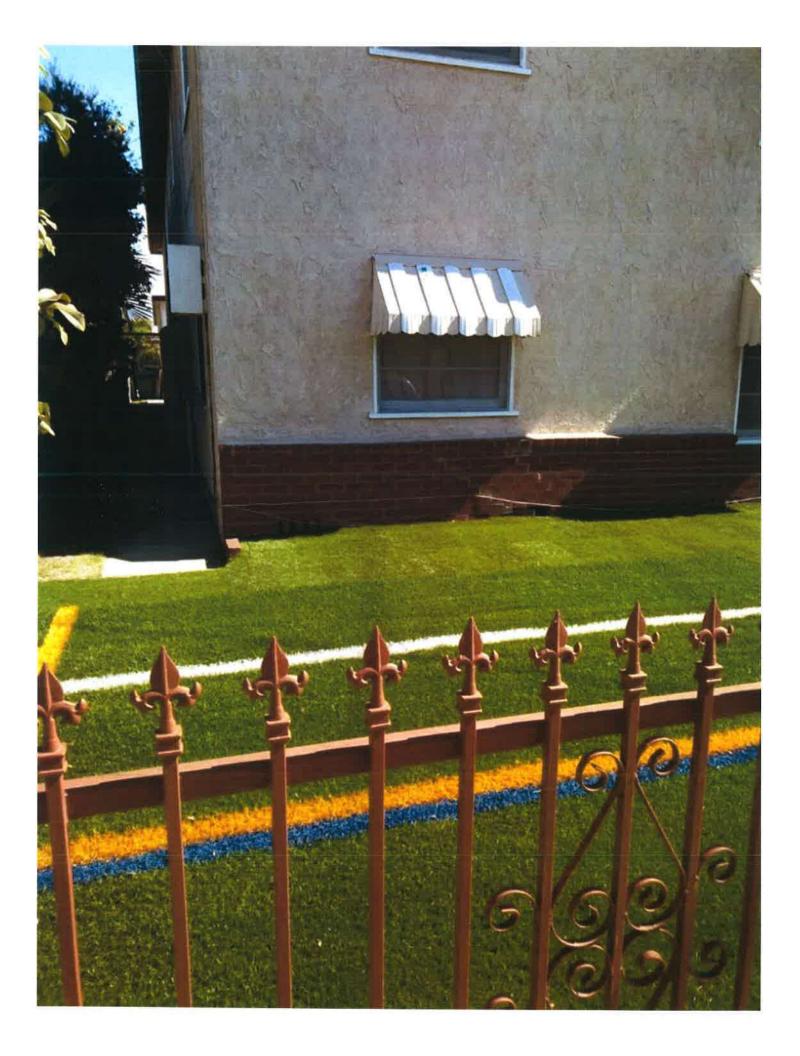
Attorney for Israel Hernandez

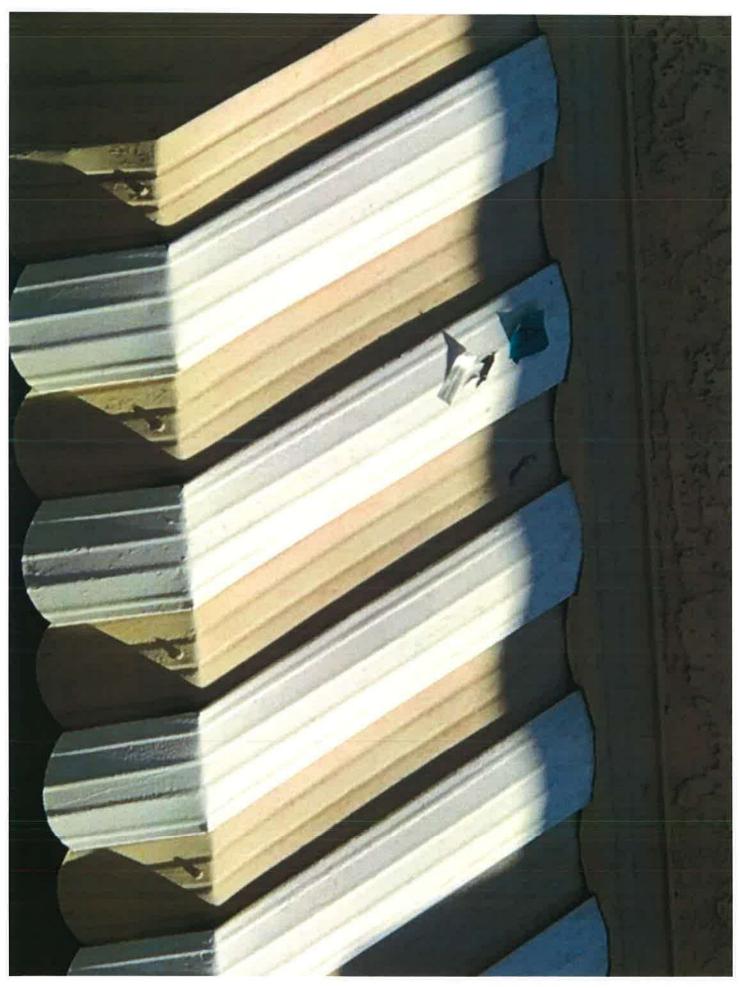
ATTACHMENT TO CLAIM OF ISREAL HERNANDEZ 8

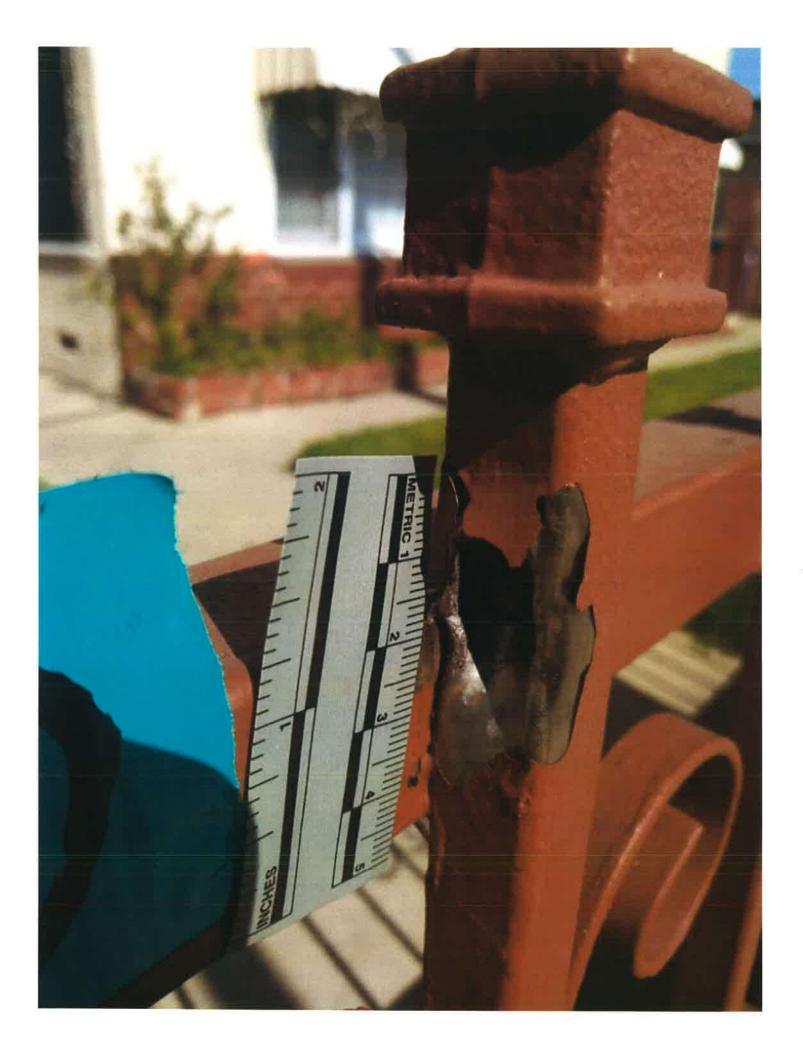












## **DESIGNATION OF ATTORNEY**

I/We hereby designate the OTTEN I connection with the LAPD	AW, P.C., to represent us/me as my/our Attorney of record in Shooting on 2-7-16 that occurred on:
2-2-18	
DATED: 4-17-18	X: Israel Hernander

## **CLAIM FOR DAMAGES**

#### TO PERSON OR PROPERTY

#### WARNING

- 1. CLAIMS FOR DEATH, INJURY TO PERSON OR TO PERSONAL PROPERTY MUST BE FILED NOT LATER THAN 6 MONTHS AFTER THE OCCURENCE. (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 911.2)
- 2. ALL OTHER CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES MUST BE FILED NOT LATER THAN ONE YEAR AFTER THE OCCURENCE. (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 911.2)
- 3. SUBJECT TO CERTAIN EXCEPTIONS, YOU HAVE ONLY SIX (6) MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THE WRITTEN NOTICE OF REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM TO FILE A COURT ACTION. (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 945.6)
- 4. IF WRITTEN NOTICE OF REJECTION OF YOUR CLAIM IS NOT GIVEN, YOU HAVE TWO (2) YEARS FROM ACCRUAL OF THE CAUSE OF ACTION TO FILE A COURT ACTION. (GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 945.6)

TO: CITY OF LOS ANGELES

Claim Number: C19-00443 Filed Date: 07/30/2018

Name of Claimant: Mr. Israel Hernandez

Age of Claimant: 48

Date of Birth: 03/25/1970
Sex: Male

Home Address of Claimant: 215 1/2 W. Opp Street, WILMINGTON, CA, 90744

Home Telephone Number:

Email Address: vic@ottenlawpc.com

Business Address of Claimant: Business Telephone Number:

Give address to which you desire notices or communications to be sent regarding this claim:

OTTEN LAW, PC 3620 Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 100, TORRANCE, CA, 90505

How did DAMAGE or INJURY occur? Please include as much detail as possible.

Mr. Hernandez was shot by an LAPD officer (See attachment).

When did DAMAGE or INJURY occur? Please include the date and time ofthe damage or injury.

02/02/2018

Where did DAMAGE or INJURY occur? Please describe fully, and locate on the diagram on the reverse side of this sheet. Where appropriate, please give street names and addresses or measurements from specific landmarks:

215 1/2 W. Opp Street, WILMINGTON, CA, 90744

What particular ACT or OMISSION do you claim caused the injury or damage? Please give names of City employees causing the injury or damage and identity any vehicles involved by license plate number, if known.

See attachment.

#### Attorney Information:

Victor J Otten

OTTEN LAW, P.C. 3620 Pacific Coast Highway, Suite 100, Torrance, CA, 90505

Please list names and addresses of Witnesses, Doctors and Hospitals:

What DAMAGE or INJURIES do you claim resulted? Please give full extent of injuries or damages claimed:

See attachment.

What is the AMOUNT of your claim? Please itemize your damages:

\$0.00

Please itemize your damages:

See attachment.

If you have received any insurance payments, please give the names of the insurance companies:



Digital Signature

1	Victor Otten (SBN 165800) vic@ottenlawpc.com				
2	vic@ottenlawpc.com Kavita Tekchandani (SBN 234873) kavita@ottenlawpc.com				
3	OTTEN LAW, PC 3620 Pacific Coast Hwy, Suite 100 Torrance, California 90505				
4	Tel: (310)3/8-8533				
5	Fax: (310)347-4225				
6	Attorneys for Claimant Jully Romero				
7	CITY OF I	LOS ANGELES			
8	CITTOFT	LOS ANGELES			
9	Jully Romero,	CLAIM FOR MONEY DAMAGES			
10	Claimant. v.	[Gov. Code§ 900, et. seq.]			
11 12	City of Los Angeles, former Chief				
13	City of Los Angeles, former Chief Charlie Beck, Chief of Police Michel Moore, Officer Andres Martinez, Serial No. 41620, Officer James Welch, Serial No. 41822 and Does 1-				
14	Welch, Serial No. 41822 and Does 1-20, Inclusive.				
15	Respondents.				
16	•				
17					
18	T T				
19	I. Introduction				
20	On February 2, 2018, the Claimant, Jully Romero, was in her living room				
21	located on the second story of the apartment building at 215 1/2 W. Opp Street,				
22	Wilmington, CA 90744. Ms. Romero with her boyfriend, Israel Hernandez, and her				
23	two young children, (ages 4 and 5 at	time of incident). She was in the process of			
24	cleaning the apartment and was next to Israel Hernandez. Around 3:30 p.m., officers				
25	assigned to the Los Angeles Police Department Harbor Division Gang Enforcement				
رد	Detail ("LAPD") observed a male His	spanic in a white minivan allegedly driving			

<sup>1</sup> Claimant is unaware if the minivan was registered to the suspect or the steps that the officers took to effectuate a traffic stop.

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recklessly and attempted to conduct a traffic stop. 1 The LAPD alleges that the driver

Despite the presence of children and pedestrians in the vicinity, and in disregard to the proper use of a firearm, Ms. Romero is informed and believes that the officers discharged all the ammunition in the magazines of their guns in a negligent and reckless manner. One independent witness has stated that the officers appeared poorly trained and were indiscriminately firing in the general area of the suspect rather than following police training protocol.<sup>3</sup> When the smoke had settled, Ms. Romero boyfriend, Mr. Hernandez, who was in the living room of his second story apartment, was hit by a stray bullet from one of the LAPD officer's weapons. The bullet traveled through a wall, through his leg and penetrated the wall near the children and Ms. Romero.<sup>4</sup> At least four other bullets discharged from the officers' weapons hit the apartment building and Ms. Romero's car (Honda) parked on the street.5

Mr. Hernandez was eventually transported to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center where he was treated for injuries to his leg. According to hospital records, Mr. Hernandez arrived at 4:31 pm. Ms. Romero arrived approximately five minutes later.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Attached as Exhibit 1 is a photograph depicting the location of the shooting.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Police officers are generally taught to direct the first two rounds at the upper torso of the target and a third round to the head of the target and to stop and assess the situation prior to continuing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Attached as Exhibit 2 is a photograph of the wall in Mr. Hernandez's apartment where the bullet that struck him came to rest.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See, photographs attached Exhibit 3.

When Ms. Romero arrived, an employee of hospital took her into a room and asked her some basic questions. The employee stated that someone from LAPD wanted to speak with her. Shortly thereafter an LAPD Sergeant entered the room and spoke with her for about five minutes. The same LAPD Sergeant next entered Mr. Hernandez's hospital room and asked him if he knew who shot him. Mr. Hernandez said "yes." The Sergeant then stated, "it was the guy we arrested, right?" suggesting the answer that the LAPD wanted to hear. It was clear that this Sergeant was looking out for his fellow police officers because there is no way the bullets fired from the suspects gun could have caused the injury to claimant and everyone knew it. Mr. Hernandez responded that it was an LAPD officer that shot him, and the Sergeant got visibly angry and stomped out of the room.

## The Illegal Detention of Ms. Romero

The entire time that Ms. Romero was at the hospital with Mr. Hernandez, there was an LAPD officer in Mr. Hernandez' hospital room and an LAPD officer stationed outside his door. Despite Mr. Hernandez having been shot, the officers took turns trying to engage the claimant in conversation to elicit information from him. Both Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero were told by the LAPD officers and detectives that they were not free to leave.

Mr. Hernandez was discharged by his doctor at 9:02 pm but was told by LAPD Detective Chavez and others that he could not leave until he made a statement. Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero were both detained, against their wishes, for approximately two hours <u>after</u> claimant was discharged. Mr. Hernandez had been shot only six hours earlier and wanted to return to his home and rest, and Ms. Romero wanted to return and see her children, but the LAPD would not allow them to leave.

Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero stated on several occasions unequivocally that they wanted to leave. In a vulgar misuse of power, LAPD Detective Chavez demanded that they turn over their cell phones, but they refused. Detective Chavez

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> On the news the LAPD started spinning the story to suggest that some clandestine third party decided to fire upon the police.

had no legal authority to detain Mr. Hernandez or Ms. Romero or to demand their cell phones. In one conversation, Detective Chavez told Mr. Hernandez that if he cooperated, the LAPD would help him with his immigration status. Mr. Hernandez informed the detective that he was a lawful US resident. Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero believe that the detective wanted them to state that the LAPD was not responsible for shooting Mr. Hernandez.

The City of Los Angeles Police Department and its officers and detectives negligently and/or intentionally caused the injuries and damages to Claimant, while acting under color of law. Respondents, City of Los Angeles, former Chief Charlie Beck, Chief of Police Michel Moore, officer Andres Martinez, Serial No. 41620, officer James Welch, Serial No. 41822 and DOES 1-20, caused the injuries and damages complained herein below.

The inappropriate shooting of Mr. Hernandez, a civilian bystander, was a result of the negligent, reckless, intentional, unlawful and unjustifiable use of force by LAPD officers, agents or employees. The unlawful detention of Ms. Romero was also an act by the respondents and DOES 1 to 20, of excessive, unlawful, and unjustifiable force at the scene, which caused severe emotional and psychological injuries to Ms. Romero. In addition, Ms. Romero was subject to false imprisonment, harassment and racial discrimination and/or profiling when she was wrongly detained by LAPD officers, detectives and employees following the incident, along with Mr. Hernandez, which further contributed to her injuries.

## LAPD's Refusal to Provide a Copy of Video

It is the policy of the LAPD that video evidence in the Department's possession of critical incidents involving LAPD officers be released to the public within 45 days of the incident. The Commission or the Chief of Police may determine that earlier release is in the public interest. This release shall consist of relevant video imagery that depicts the actions and events leading up to and including the critical incident.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> See, http://www.lapdonline.org/home/news\_view/63555.

Shortly after the February 2, 2018 events described in this claim, the LAPD obtained a video of the police shooting from the owner of a store located near the intersection of W. Opp Street and Fries Avenue in the City of Wilmington. Despite having this video, the LAPD website for 2018 Officer Involved Shooting (O.I.S.) and Critical Incidents, failed to inform the public that the LAPD has a video of the incident.<sup>8</sup>

On or about early July 2018, a detective for the Force Investigation Division (FID), which is responsible for the investigation of all incidents involving the use of deadly force of an LAPD officer contacted Ms. Romero's attorney, Vic Otten, regarding the incident. The detective confirmed to Mr. Otten that the LAPD had the video but stated that he could not release it. The detective told Mr. Otten that he could obtain it through civil discovery if a lawsuit was filed. This appears to violate the LAPD's own policy and the California Public Records Act.

Ms. Romero's attorney also informed the detective about the illegal detention and treatment of Ms. Romero and Mr. Hernandez at the hospital. The detective was not interested in what happened but stated that Mr. Hernandez could file a claim of police misconduct. To date, neither Mr. Hernandez, Ms. Romero, or their attorney has been provided a copy of the video.

#### **II. Statement of Facts**

On February 2, 2018 the LAPD negligently and/or recklessly discharged their weapons in a residential neighborhood aimlessly causing Mr. Hernandez to be struck in the leg with a bullet while inside his apartment and in the presence of children, which psychologically also greatly impacted Ms. Romero and her two young children who were at the scene. In addition, Ms. Romero and Mr. Hernandez were subject to false imprisonment, harassment and racial discrimination when they were wrongly detained by LAPD detectives or employees following the incident, which further contributed to their injuries.

The negligent hiring, employment, negligent training, negligent supervision and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> See, http://www.lapdonline.org/use of force#

negligent detention by the City of Los Angeles, and the unconstitutional policies, practices and procedures in place at the City of Los Angeles Police Department regarding the use of firearms and the unlawful detention of people, especially members of a protected class, caused the claimant to be injured as described herein. The City of Los Angeles, former Chief Beck, Chief Michel Moore, its supervisors, officers, and staff ratifies, condones, and acquiesces in the negligent and/or excessive use of force by its officers. The City of Los Angeles former Chief Beck, Chief Michel Moore, its supervisors, officers, and staff ratify, condones, and acquiesces, in the filing of false police reports to "cover up" the negligent and/or excessive use of force.

As a direct result of the negligent shooting of Mr. Hernandez, in the vicinity of Ms. Romero and her young children, and the intentional and/or negligent illegal detention and harassment at the hospital Ms. Romero has suffered acute and ongoing extreme emotional distress, including post-traumatic stress disorder.

The pursuit of Mr. Gudino by the LAPD in the mid- afternoon on February 2, 2018 in the presence of numerous civilians, including school age children who were returning from school, as well as the discharge of over 15 bullets into the crowded area, was both negligent and reckless. The shooting of a gun aimlessly towards Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero, and towards Ms. Romero's young children, the damaging of the couple's property and home, the illegal and unreasonable detention of Ms. Romero and Mr. Hernandez by the LAPD following their injury, where the couple was not permitted to leave the hospital by LAPD police officers and detectives, following the completion of the treatment of Mr. Hernandez' bullet wound, as well as the other acts and omissions enumerated above, were done a result of, or pursuant to, the unconstitutional policies, practices, customs, and procedures in place at the City of Los Angeles Police Department. The false imprisonment, wrongful detention and deplorable treatment of Ms. Romero and Mr. Hernandez following Mr. Hernandez' treatment of the gunshot wound caused by the LAPD officers, is believed to be either racially motivated or attempt to cover up the illegal

practices of the LAPD. These acts and others were sanctioned, authorized and ratified by the City of Los Angeles, former Chief Charlie Beck, Chief Michel Moore, the Los Angeles Police Department and those Captains, Lieutenants, supervisors, persons, officials and officers of the Los Angeles Police Department who have policy making authority. The foregoing acts were also a result of the LAPD and other government officials, and agencies' negligent and improper hiring, and training of the officers involved in the incident who were not properly qualified for the job.

Further, the negligent shooting was a result of failure of the City of Los Angeles, Chief Charlie Beck, and the Los Angeles Police Department to adequately and sufficiently hire, train and supervise LAPD officers and other employees as to proper police practices and tactics, use of deadly force, and for their negligent employment and retention of this officer and DOES 1-20.

All the above-described negligent, and/or intentional acts and omissions by the City of Los Angeles, Chief Beck, the employees of the LAPD were done with malice and with deliberate indifference to the rights, health, safety and welfare of Mr. Hernandez and Ms. Romero, and their family members, and therefore, warrants the imposition of punitive or exemplary damages against said persons, except the City of Los Angeles.

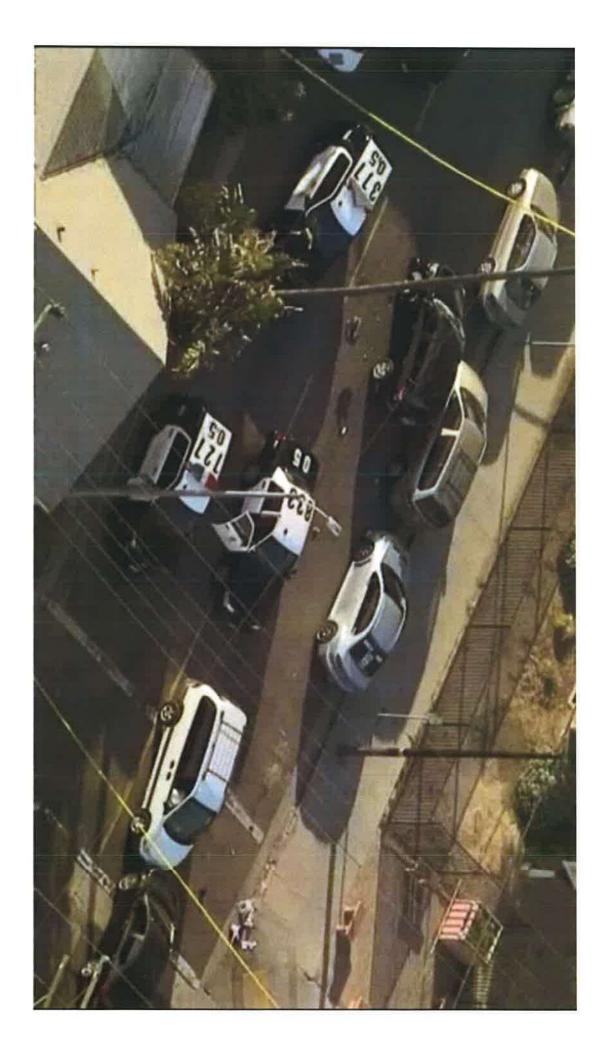
## III. Damages

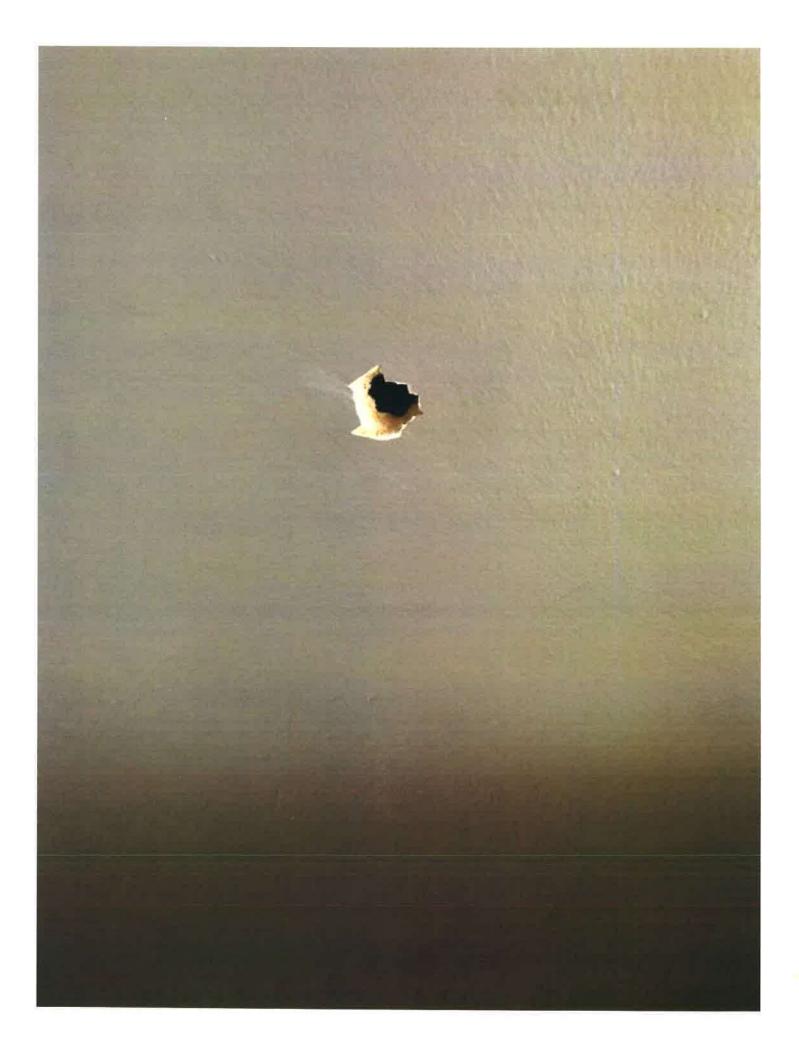
Because of the foregoing incident, Ms. Romero, has panic attacks, suffers from extreme anxiety and other forms of emotional distress including the distress caused to her children. She also suffered property damage to her apartment and vehicle from the bullets. The amount of damages is currently unknown but exceeds \$25,000 and therefore falls under the unlimited jurisdiction of the California Superior Court.

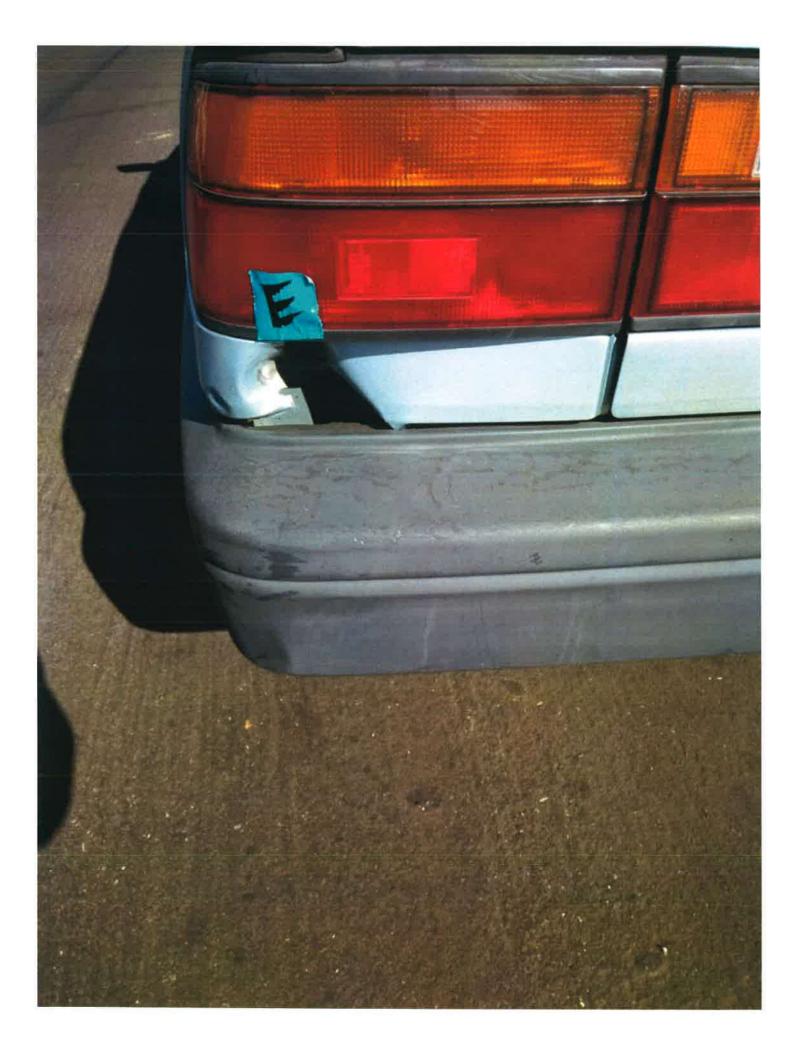
## IV. The Claims Against the City of Los Angeles

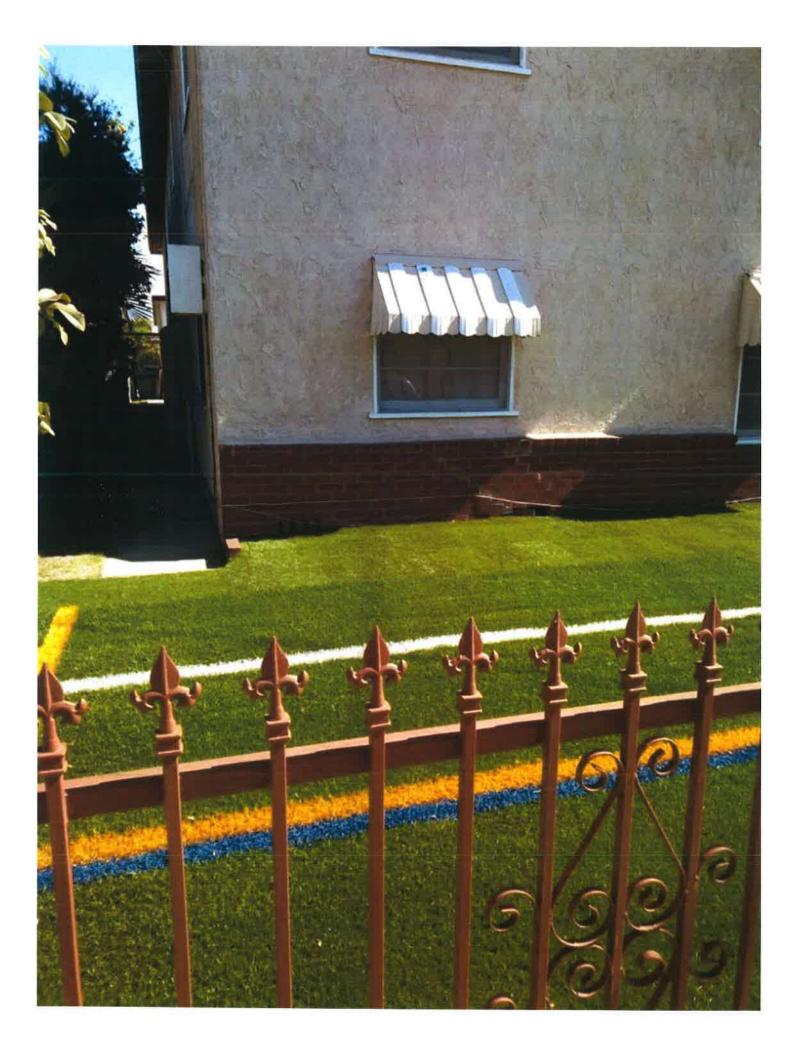
Assault and Battery, Negligence (and damages for negligent infliction of emotional distress), False Imprisonment, Intentional Infliction of Emotional Distress, Negligent Hiring, Failure to Train and Supervise; Violation of California's Public

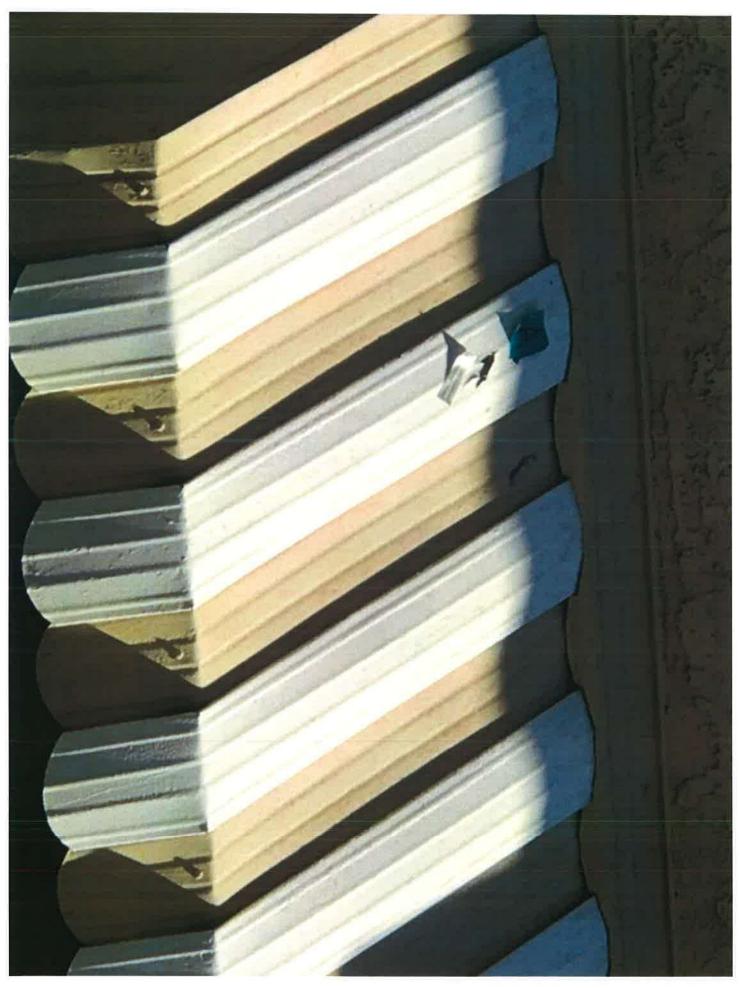
1	Records Act; Violation of Constitutional Right to Be Free from Unreasonable and				
2	Excessive Force (42 U.S.C. § 1983; 4th and 14th Amendment); Violation of Du				
3	Process (14 <sup>th</sup> Amendment); Municipal Liability (42 U.S.C. § 1983).				
4	V. The Names of Presently Known Employees, Agents or Representatives,				
5	Whose Acts or Omissions Caused Claimants Injuries.				
6	Former Chief Charlie Beck, Chief Michel Moore, Officer Andres Martinez				
7	Serial No. 41620, Officer James Welch, Serial No. 41822, Detective Chavez and				
8	various unknown Los Angeles Police Department Officers, Sergeants, Lieutenants,				
9	Captains, Commanders, and civilian employees of the City of Los Angeles Police				
10	Department.				
11	VI. The Total Amount Claimed For Physical Injuries, Future Medical Care,				
12	Lost Wages And Earning Capacity, And Past, Present, And Future				
13	Physical And Psychological, Pain And Suffering.				
14	The amount claimed exceeds the limit provided in the Government Code 910				
15	and falls under the unlimited jurisdiction of the Superior Court of California and/or				
16	the Federal Court.				
17					
18	DATED: July 29, 2018 OTTEN LAW, PC				
19					
20	Victor Otten, Esq.				
21	Attorney for Israel Hernandez and				
22	Jully Romero				
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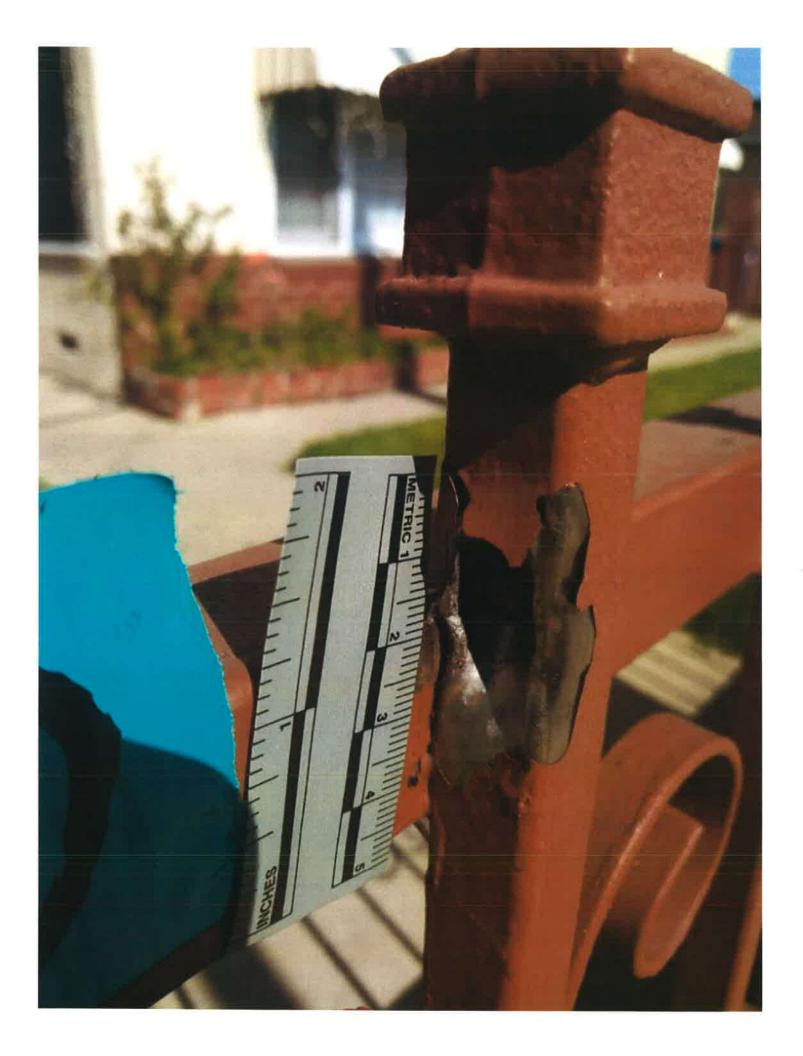












## **DESIGNATION OF ATTORNEY**

I/We hereby designate the C	TTEN LAW, P.C., t	o represent	us/me as my/our Attorney of reco	ord in
connection with the Feb 2	incident with	LAPO	that occurred on:	
Feb 2, 2018	*			
DATED: 7/30//8	X:	Qu	UR.	_